

**ABSTRACT**

A method is described wherein a pre-printed film or paper web is selectively demetallized in register with the images pre-printed on the web. This provides the ability to demetallize micro-text, photographs or pictures, or demetallize a pattern (wallpaper) over an already demetallized area, or demetallize in patterns to create moiré patterns for security applications and/or for enhancing the attractiveness of internal and external packaging.